

**RECREATION AND PARKS BOARD  
OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY  
Thursday, November 2, 2017  
5:30 PM**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Doug Bellis, Chairperson; Dick Buckler, Patrick Murphy, Caroline King and Ashley Varner.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jake Heibel, Thomas Nelson, Fred Parker and Floyd Warren.

**RECREATION AND PARKS STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT:** Arthur Shepherd, R&P Director; David Guyther, Parks Manager; Tyrone Harris, Facilities Coordinator; Jessica Hale, Recreation Division Manager; and Kathy Bailey, Recorder. R&P hourly employees attended and were presented with length of service awards.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Doug Bellis called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Patrick Murphy moved, seconded by Ashley Varner, to approve the minutes of October 5, 2017; motion carried with all in favor.**

**RECREATION ENTERPRISE FUND REPORT**

Director Arthur Shepherd, introduced Jessica Hale, Recreation Division Manager, who provided a report on the current activities of the Recreation Division. Highlights included:

- Scott Verbic Memorial Tournament – event saw 23 teams and made nearly \$11,000 for the scholarship fund.
- Youth Basketball – registration is underway for youth basketball programs; registration up from this time last year.
- New Gymnastics Center spring floor and wall mats - will soon be installed.
- She noted Darrick Sesker is the new Sports and Events Coordinator for the Department.

Ms. Hale provided a FY2017 Year to Date handout for the Recreation Enterprise Fund. Actual was \$2,529,920; expenses \$2,400,156; and net was \$129,764.

**PARK ATHLETIC FIELD PLAN**

Director Shepherd introduced David Guyther, Parks Manager, who provided handouts on the Park Athletic Field Plan. Mr. Guyther provided the current cancellation policy and the fields and amenities listing summary. He noted that feedback was positive from league representatives present at the September 7, 2017 board meeting. Some items discussed for consideration included:

- Rotating fields out of service to renovate them for better play next season
- Install several rain gauges around the County to more accurately gauge rainfall
- Explore the time and manpower needed for aeration of fields (staff vs. contractor)
- Challenges – adequate rainfall and temperatures

Carolyn King suggested providing information to leagues to provide to parents at the beginning of the season regarding the cancellation policy (and list on the website).

A full plan discussion will be held in November and it is anticipated the plan will be presented for Board vote in February 2018.

## **PROJECT UPDATES**

Wieck Playground – The playground committee is in the process of making a recommendation for vendor selection.

Fifth District Park – Funds are being requested from Program Open Space to construct a playground at Fifth District Park.

Clarke's Landing – The ribbon cutting ceremony with the County Commissioners will be held on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

Three Notch Trail Phase Seven – The design and engineering for the project continues to move forward with review of necessary easements underway.

Elms Beach Park –The CSCM sent a letter to the State on October 17<sup>th</sup> making the formal request to extend the property lease to May 31, 2044.

John G. Lancaster Park – Staff plans to install lighting on field #5 at Lancaster Park and is awaiting approval of the project from the Navy.

Basketball Court Renovations at Lancaster and Nicolet Parks – Asphalt work is done; however, color coating and striping will be done in spring when weather warms. The courts are open for use.

St. Inigoes Landing – Design for the new bulkhead is underway.

## **SELECTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Dick Buckler volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee for the 2018 election of officers.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Patrick Murphy thanked Mr. Shepherd and staff for presenting hourly employees with length of service awards.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Recreation and Parks Board is scheduled for Thursday, December 7, 2017.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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Kathy Bailey, Recorder

Minutes approved by the Recreation and Parks Board on December 7, 2017.